

varieties of tomatoes and harvested a bountiful crop each year.

Andy left his mark in many remarkable ways, but most notably through his personal and voluntary philanthropic efforts. He served on the Board of Directors of the Gellert Foundation. Over the decades, he and his fellow board members donated many millions of dollars, chiefly to education, but also to youth programs and seniors. We will probably never know how much he donated through his own charitable giving, but it is said to have been a significant sum. Always concerned about putting a roof over the head of someone or something, he designed and built birdhouses, made from wooden wine boxes, and he donated these birdhouses to charity where they sold at fundraisers. His philanthropy included the Fallen Heroes Memorial in the City of San Mateo, the Wounded Warrior Project, and the San Mateo Police Activities League.

Andy Cresci was the proud father of Lisa Christensen, the father-in-law of John Christensen, and the stepfather of Nicole Pobuta Aquino (Miguel), Kristen Pobuta Iwata (Nick), the grandfather of Nicolas and Anthony Christensen, and the step-grandfather of Carson Iwata. He was predeceased by his first wife Kathy Cresci and survived by my friend and the former Mayor of San Mateo, Maureen Freschet.

Madam Speaker, a long life leads to many accomplishments arising from opportunities. Most people seize opportunities that arrive by chance, but a few people also spend their lives creating opportunities. Andy Cresci was the latter. He was a doer and a dreamer. Without question, and for tens of thousands of customers, friends and family members, Andy Cresci made a difference for the better in our community. He was the personification of patriotism. May he rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING MS. DENISE SMITH

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2022

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Denise Smith of Canton, Michigan, upon her 70th birthday. Ms. Smith is a tireless community servant and personal friend who has dedicated her life to advancing many social and political causes that are critically important to the people of Michigan's 11th Congressional District and the greater Metropolitan Detroit community. The entire Nation benefits from the work of Ms. Smith, and it is a pleasure to join her family and friends in celebrating and thanking her today upon achieving this significant milestone.

Ms. Denise Smith grew up in Waterford, Michigan and has continued to make Southeast Michigan her home for many years since. She spent much of her career with Ford Motor Company in corporate finance, retiring after 25 years, in 2014. In addition to the full-time commitment of maintaining a family and career, Ms. Smith found great pleasure in serving her community through volunteering and grassroots organizing. She was inspired to lead a life of service by her experience as a child, watching her parents offer help to anyone in need. This instilled in Denise a strong sense

of service, leading to her affiliation with many local organizations throughout her life that have the mission of helping others.

Among the many causes that Ms. Smith has taken up, she has worked to support and advocate for survivors of domestic and sexual violence with First Step Michigan, address the gun violence epidemic with Moms Demand Action, and organize and distribute clothing to those in need as a high school clothing bank volunteer. Expanding the scope of her activism, Ms. Smith was drawn to assist with the election of Barack Obama, serving as a volunteer for his 2008 campaign. Ms. Smith loves sharing her enthusiasm for her community by making phone calls to engage voters, assembling yard signs to remind neighbors of the upcoming election, and overseeing campaign offices and their administration. She also served on the board of the Canton Democratic Club and was Treasurer of the Township Treasurer's campaign. Because of her tireless efforts, she was deservedly awarded the 2013 Grassroots Activist Award from her local Democratic Party organization.

Along with being a prolific local activist, Ms. Smith is proud to be a mother and grandmother. Her beloved son, Sam Plymale (Chelsea Plymale) of Livonia, Michigan, and daughter, Sarah Plymale-Ponza (Victor Ponza) of Portland, Oregon, have brought her great joy in welcoming two lovely grandchildren, Annabelle Plymale and Zadian Ponza; she is also thrilled for another grandson, Joseph Plymale, to join the family this June. Being a mother and grandmother motivates Ms. Smith's efforts to extend beyond rhetoric, as she translates her passion into action that is certain to leave our nation a better place for future generations.

Madam Speaker, Ms. Denise Smith has dedicated herself to helping others and has improved the lives of countless individuals within Michigan's 11th Congressional District and beyond. Her acts of kindness as a servant leader have an impact that will positively influence our community and Nation long into the future. It is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Denise Smith upon her 70th birthday and to thank her for the years of service on behalf of her fellow Americans.

IN RECOGNITION OF RICK YOST

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2022

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the retirement of Mr. Rick Yost, the Superintendent of Fredericksburg Christian School. Rick has faithfully served as Superintendent since 2004. Each year, Rick's love for Fredericksburg Christian School and commitment to the students has grown exponentially. A polished leader and expert communicator, Rick worked tirelessly throughout his time as Superintendent to educate the next generation of Christian Americans and prepare them for a life of amazing opportunities.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of Rick Yost. Words alone cannot express the positive impact he has had on the next generation. May

God bless the next phase of Rick's journey and continue to guide him in all his endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARIA GUADALUPE "LUPITA" AGUILAR

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2022

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Maria Guadalupe "Lupita" Aguilar.

Maria Guadalupe "Lupita" Aguilar was born and raised in Laredo, TX. A proud daughter of a WWII Veteran and a farmworker turned seamstress, Lupita was taught about the values of community and service at an early age.

Lupita honorably graduated from Nixon High School and Laredo Community College and made a career in the service industry—working in housing and health care spaces primarily focusing on servicing low-income, Latino families throughout Laredo and Webb County.

The biggest accomplishment of her life has been being a mother of four grown children who are in their late 20's and early 30's: Jorge "Georgie" Aguilar, Jaime "JB" Aguilar, Lorena Aguilar, and Randy Aguilar. Watching them graduate from college, start a job and form their own families has been a blessing. Guided by her Catholic faith, positive mentality and optimism, Lupita has surmounted many challenges in the past including beating breast cancer twice.

During her free time, Lupita enjoys spending time with her grandchildren, cooking and traveling when she gets the opportunity. She and her husband reside in Rio Bravo, TX—just blocks away from the Rio Grande—where they've lived for over 20 years.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Maria Guadalupe "Lupita" Aguilar.

HONORING CHARLES MINOT DOLE FOR HIS FOUNDING OF THE NATIONAL SKI PATROL AND HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE 10TH MOUNTAIN DIVISION

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2022

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the extraordinary life of Charles Minot "Minnie" Dole. Minnie Dole played a pivotal role in founding the National Ski Patrol and creating the 10th Mountain Division as we know it today.

Minnie Dole was born in Tyngsboro, Massachusetts on April 18, 1899. He attended Phillips Academy and then graduated Yale in 1923. Mr. Dole was an outdoor enthusiast and a member of the prestigious New York amateur Ski Club. He recognized the need for an organization that would supply first aid and rescue support at ski races and downhill skiing venues, so he established the National Ski Patrol in 1938 and served as its national director until 1950. His leadership and vision allowed for greater safety, accessibility, and enjoyment in skiing. Thanks to Mr. Dole's contributions, the National Ski Patrol is the largest